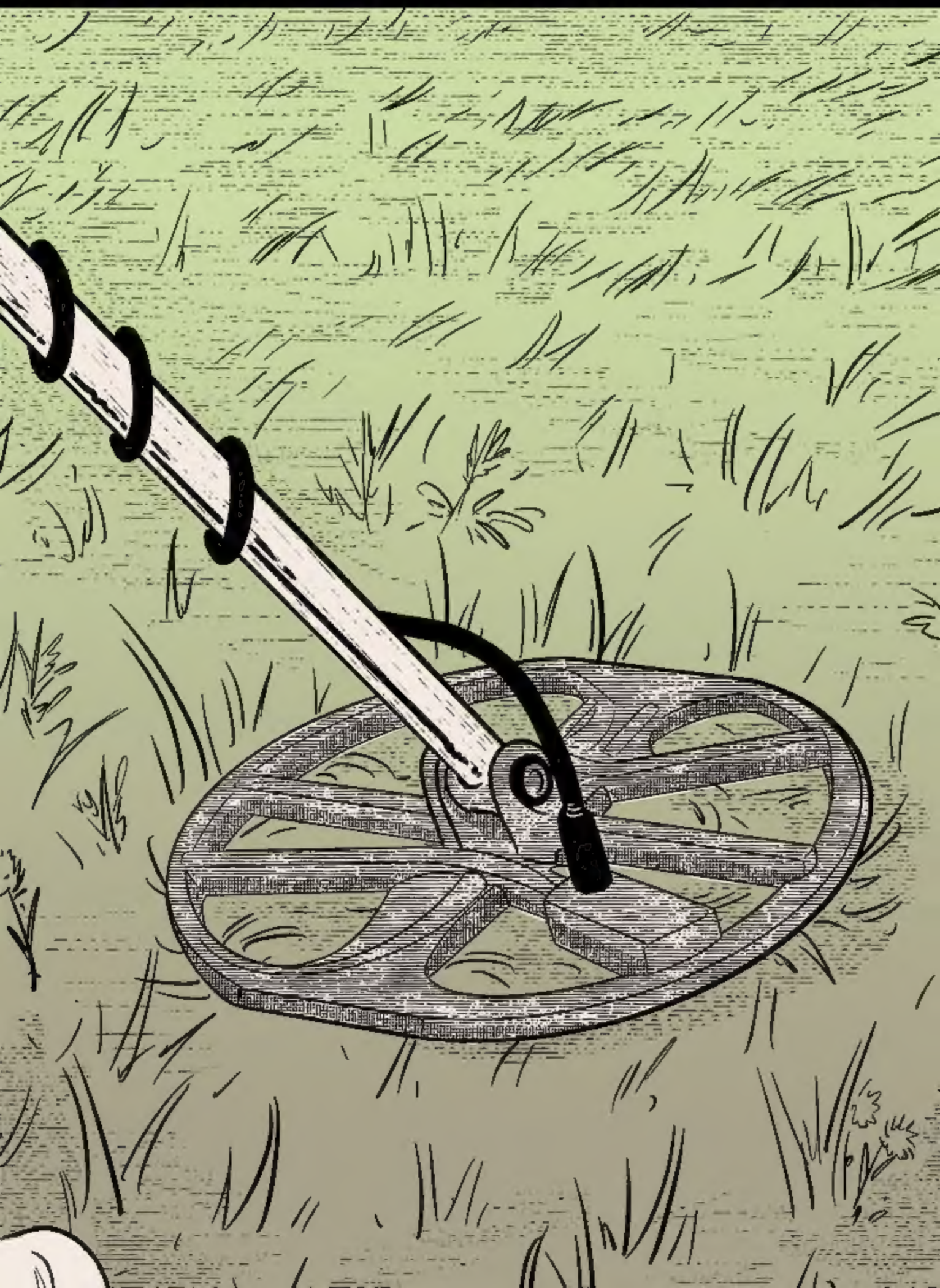
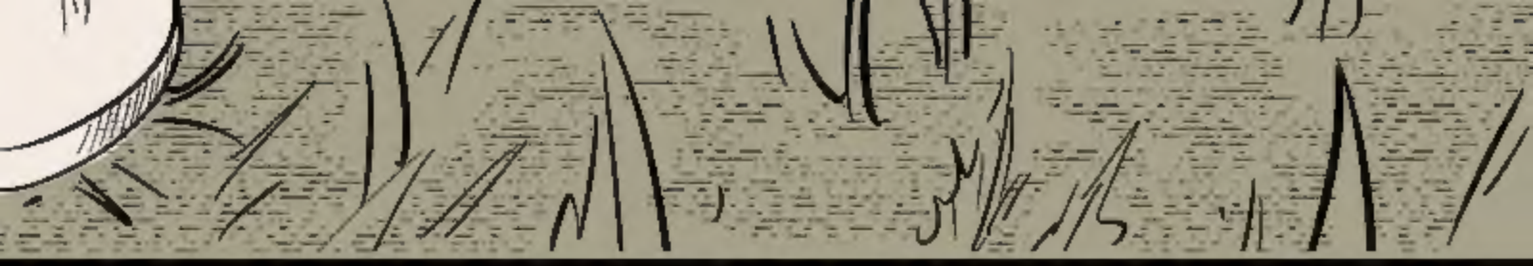
BEEP...

BEEP...

BEEP...





BEEP...

BEEP...

BEEP...

BEEP...

CAROUSEL

part fire

part five

AFTER MAKING A RUN TO THE

AFTER MAKING A RUN TO THE HARDWARE STORE, I WENT OVER THE FIELD WITH A METAL DETECTOR.

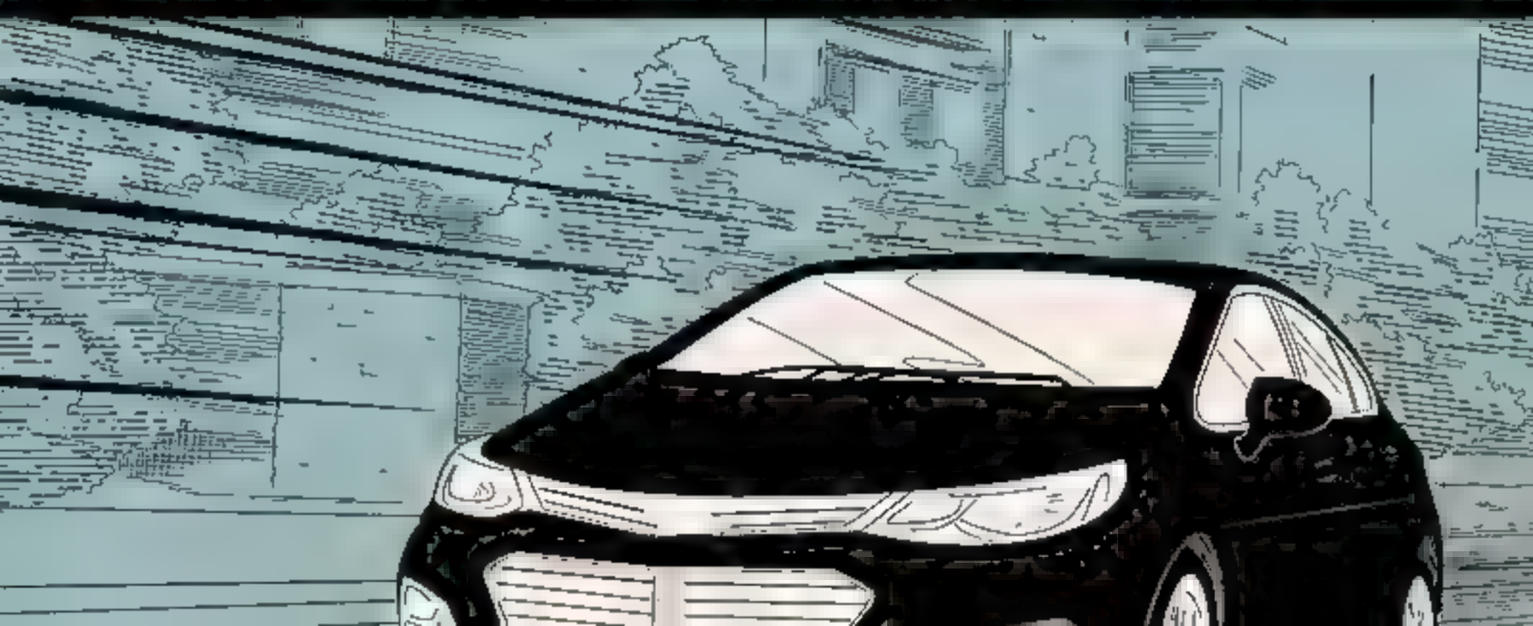
EVERY LAST INCH OF IT.

AND I DID FIND SOMETHING.

THIRTY-FOUR CENTS AND A EARRING. WOW.

I DECIDED TO RE-EVALUATE
MY APPROACH.

HOPEFULLY IN A WAY WHERE I WOULDN'T HAVE TO BLOW MY TINY BANK ACCOUNT ON METAL DETECTOR RENTALS.

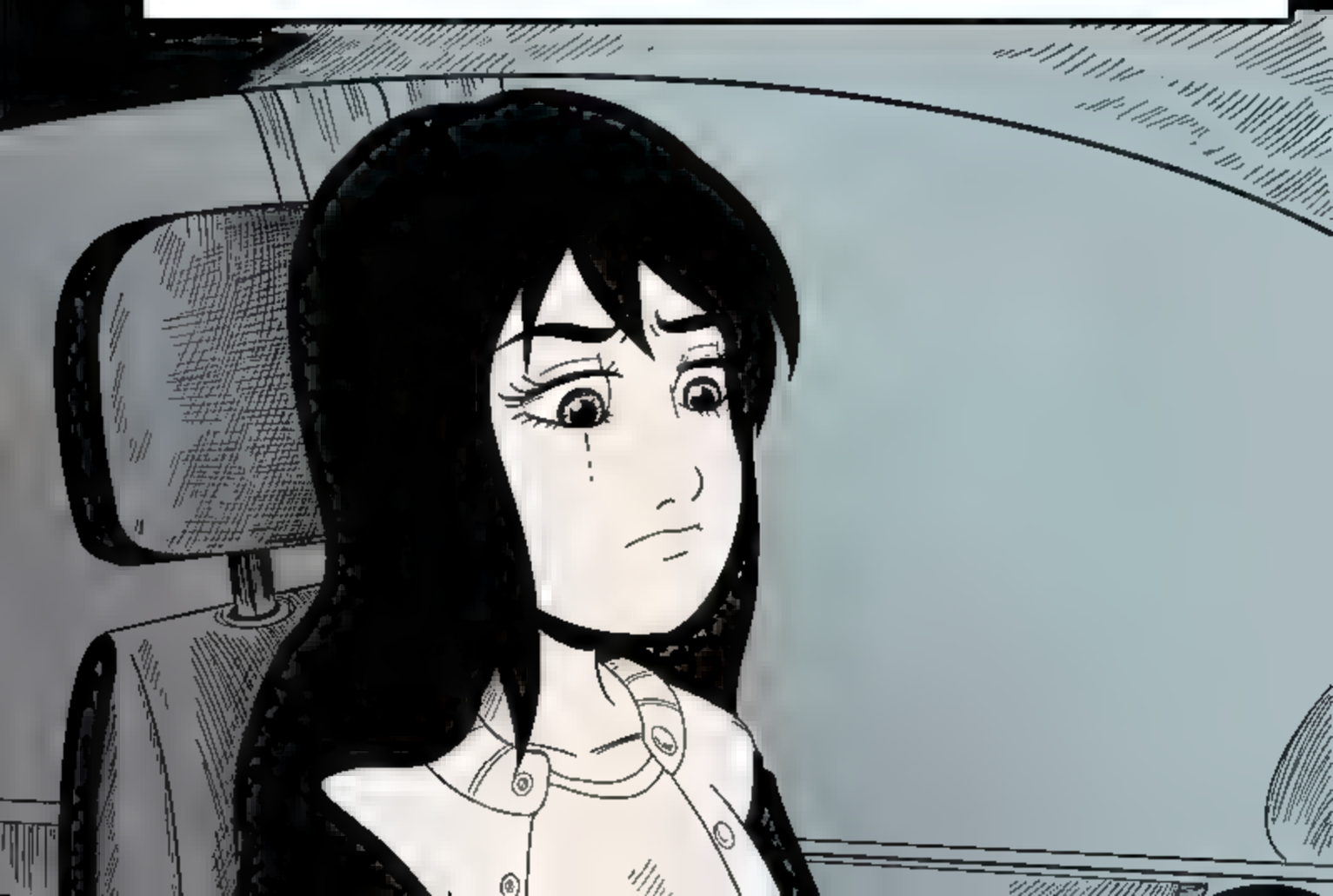


ON THE WAY BACK TO THE STORE TO RETURN THE DETECTOR, I HAD A THOUGHT.

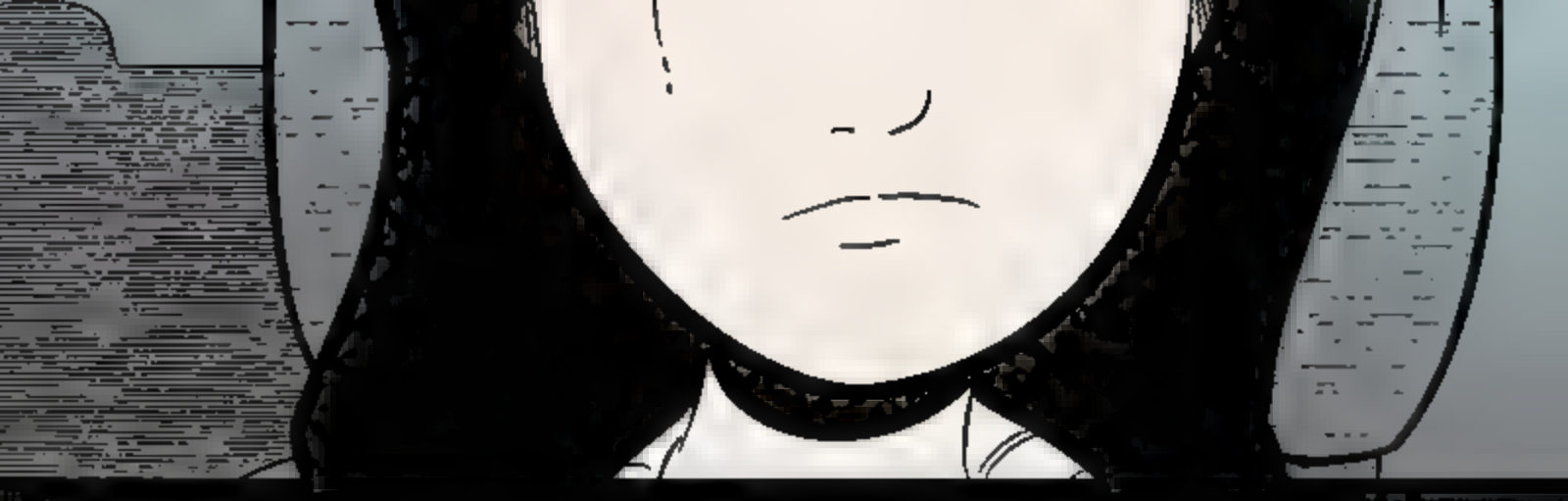
FLAILING AROUND IN THE DARK FOR ANSWERS ISN'T REALLY GOING TO GET ME ANYWHERE.

IF I WANT TO FIGURE OUT WHAT JEREMY WAS TRYING TO DO, I HAVE TO THINK LIKE JEREMY.

WHICH ISN'T EASY...JEREMY THOUGHT THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONTROLLING CHILDREN'S MINDS THROUGH SUBLIMINAL BREAKFAST CEREAL COMMERCIALS.



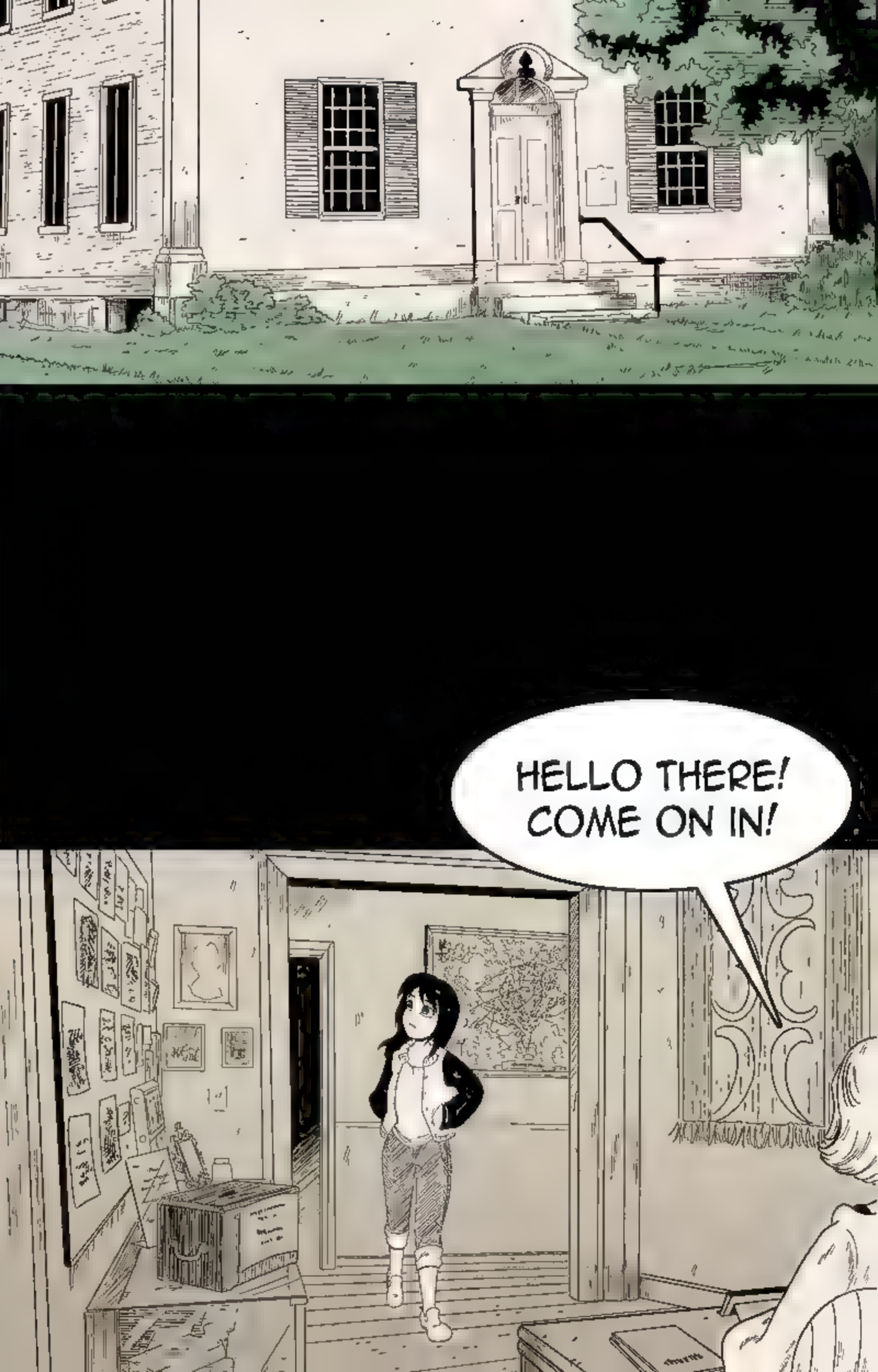
ANYWAY, JEREMY WAS BIG INTO DOING RESEARCH.
SO I HAVE TO THINK LIKE HIM AND DO A BIT OF DIGGING AS WELL, I GUESS.

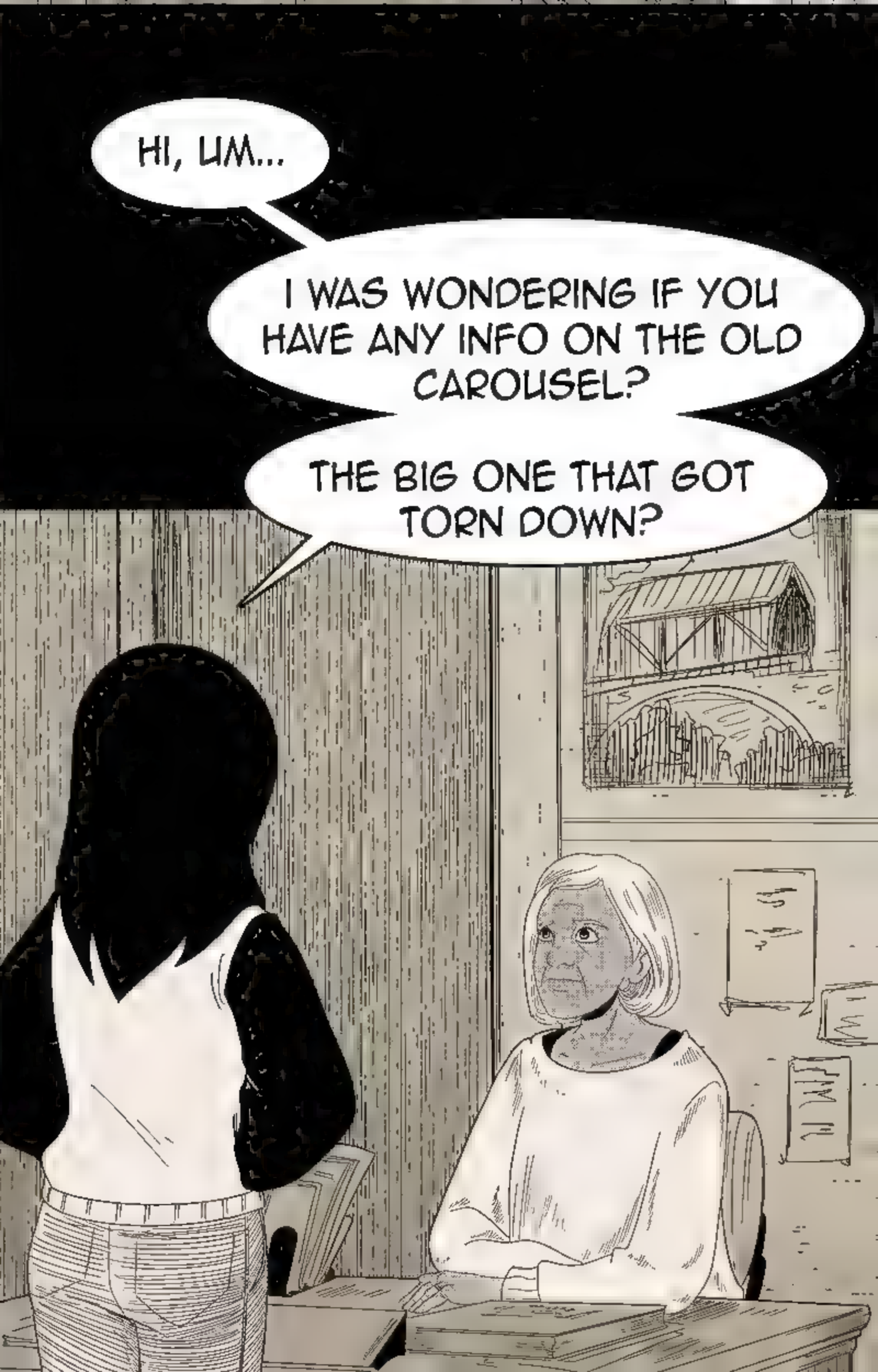


THERE ISN'T MUCH INFORMATION TO BE HAD ABOUT STAGTOWN'S PAST ONLINE, I THINK.

BUT I *DID* RECALL FROM A SCHOOL PROJECT THAT THE TOWN HAS A LITTLE HISTORY DISPLAY IN THE WELCOME CENTER.

SO THAT HAD TO BE MY NEXT STOP.


HELLO THERE!
COME ON IN!


HI, UM...
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU HAVE ANY INFO ON THE OLD CAROUSEL?
THE BIG ONE THAT GOT TORN DOWN?

OH YES! WE HAVE A LITTLE GALLERY ROOM FOR IT! LET ME SHOW YOU.
THANKS, I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY.

WELL THEN YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS IT, HONEY. BECAUSE I'M REALLY NOT, HAHA.

THERE'S REALLY NOT MUCH TO DO WHEN WE AREN'T HOLDING EVENTS.

IT'S A SHAME, PEOPLE CAN GO THEIR WHOLE LIVES IN THE SAME TOWN AND NEVER KNOW A THING ABOUT ITS HISTORY.

HEH, YEAH, GUILTY.

HERE WE ARE! THIS ROOM HAS A LOT OF HISTORY ABOUT

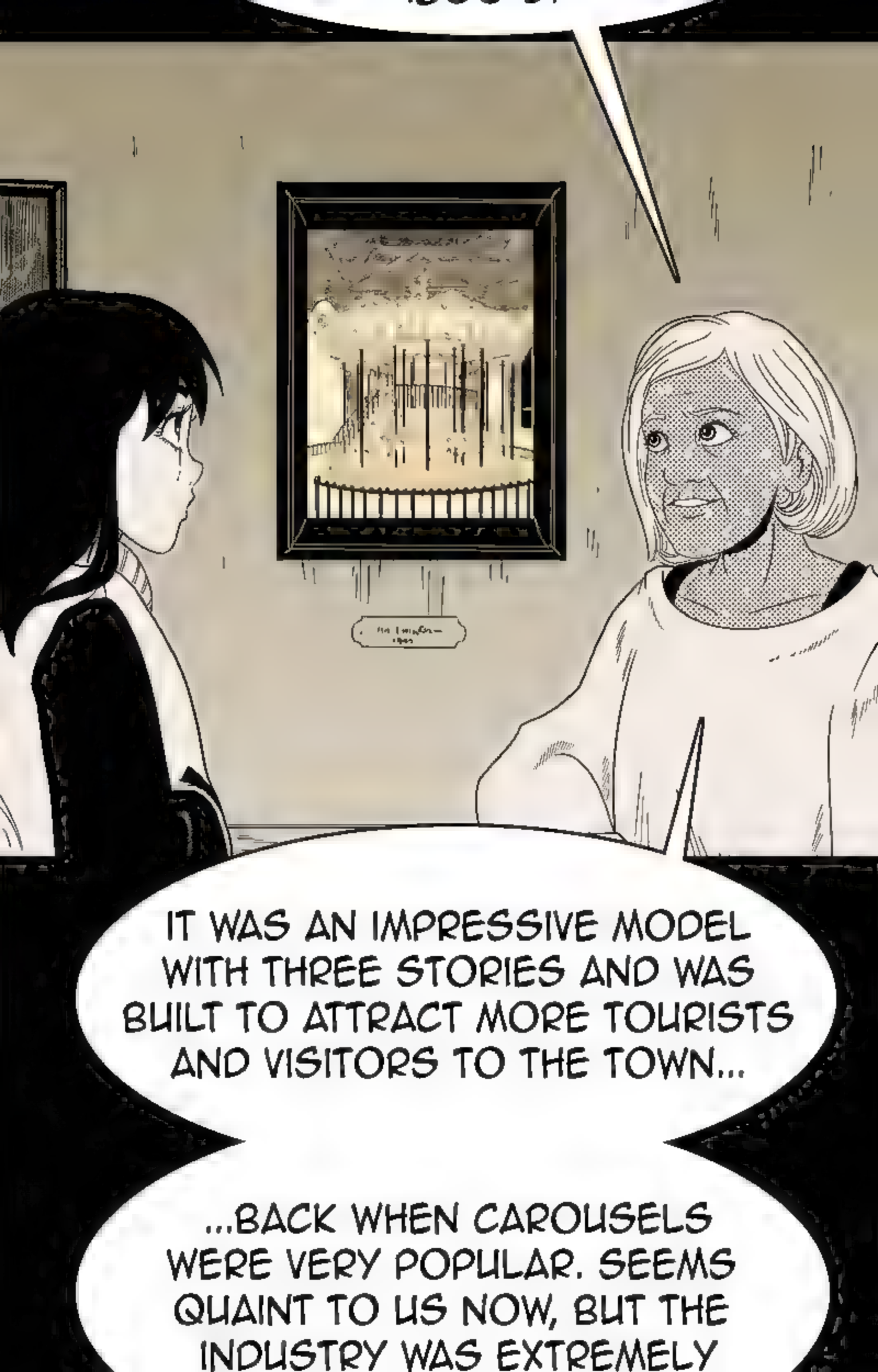
THE OLD CAROUSEL!
I DON'T KNOW MUCH, EXCEPT THAT IT WAS A TOURIST THING.

IS THIS ONE OF THE ANIMALS YOU COULD RIDE ON?

ACTUALLY NO, WE THINK THAT ONE WENT ON TOP OF THE CAROUSEL AS A DECORATION, SINCE NONE OF THE RIDING ONES WERE JUMPERS.
SEE HOW ALL FOUR OF ITS FEET ARE OFF THE GROUND?

IN CAROUSEL TERMS, THAT'S A JUMPER. OTHERS WERE PRANCERS, GALLOPERS, STANDERS, SO ON.

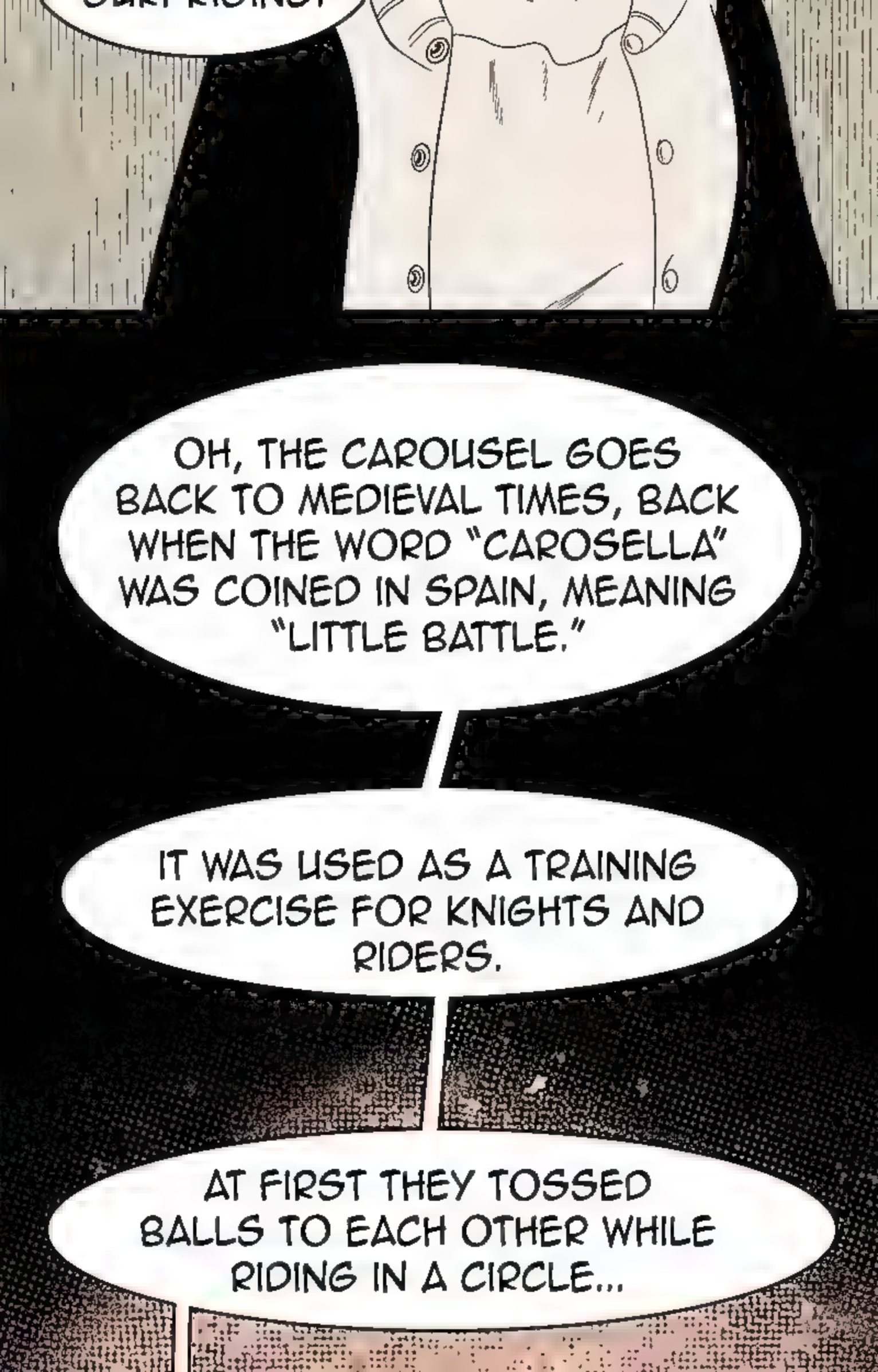
THIS IS THE ONLY INTACT ANIMAL WE HAVE LEFT FROM THE ORIGINAL CAROUSEL THAT WAS BUILT IN THE VERY LATE 1800'S.


IT WAS AN IMPRESSIVE MODEL WITH THREE STORIES AND WAS BUILT TO ATTRACT MORE TOURISTS AND VISITORS TO THE TOWN...
...BACK WHEN CAROUSELS WERE VERY POPULAR. SEEMS QUAINT TO US NOW, BUT THE INDUSTRY WAS EXTREMELY

COMPETITIVE.

YOU KNOW THAT STAGTOWN HAD ONE OF THE FIRST CAROUSELS IN THE COUNTRY, EVEN BEFORE THIS ONE?

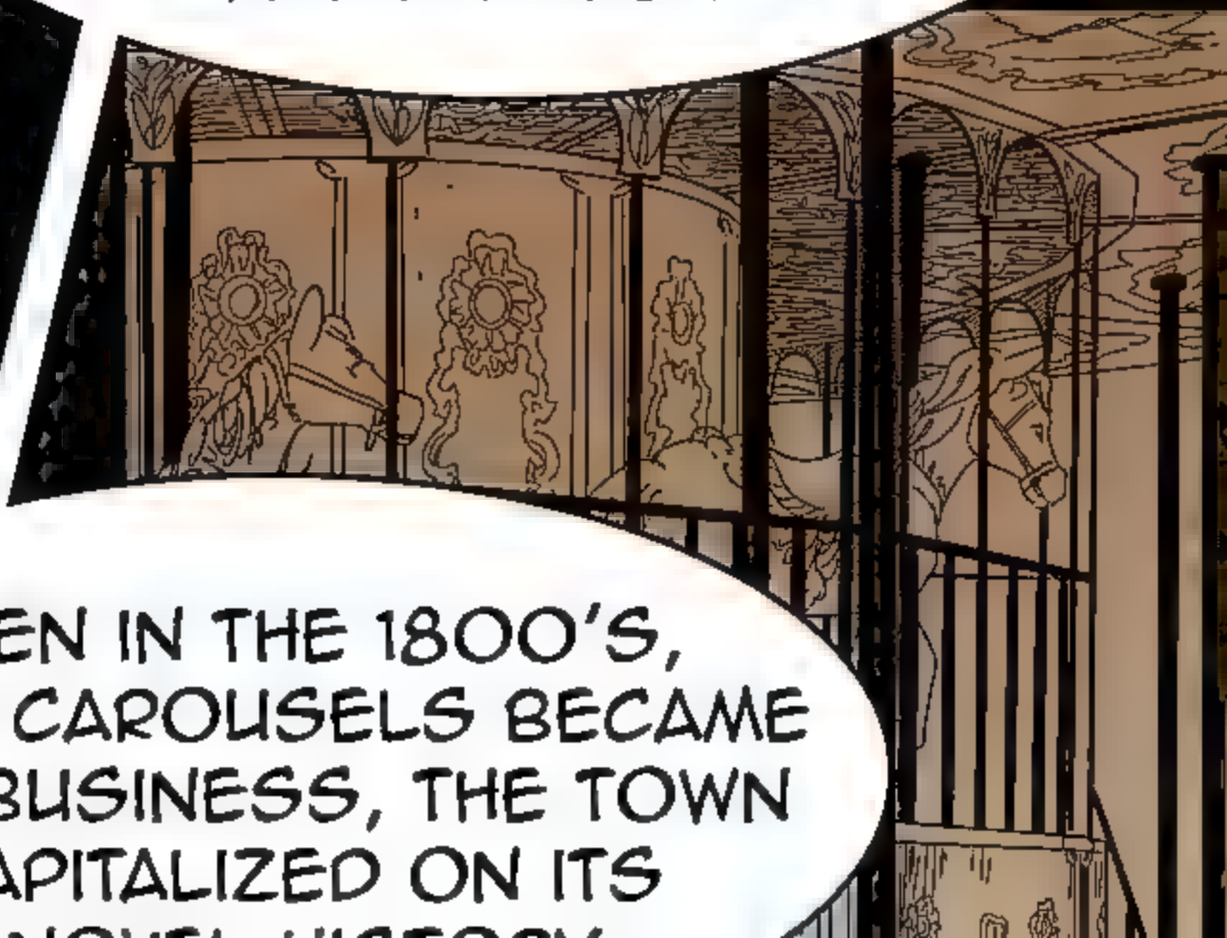
BUT THAT WAS HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO, SO WE ONLY HAVE A FEW WRITTEN MENTIONS OF IT, NO PHOTOS.
AT ANY RATE, THAT'S WHAT LED TO THE BUILDING OF THIS BIGGER ONE.
HUH, I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE THAT OLD.
THAT'S KINDA SURPRISING


OH, THE CAROUSEL GOES BACK TO MEDIEVAL TIMES, BACK WHEN THE WORD "CAROSELLA" WAS COINED IN SPAIN, MEANING "LITTLE BATTLE."
IT WAS USED AS A TRAINING EXERCISE FOR KNIGHTS AND RIDERS.
AT FIRST THEY TOSSED BALLS TO EACH OTHER WHILE RIDING IN A CIRCLE...

BUT LATER ON, WOODEN TRAINING DEVICES WERE MADE, WITH DUMMY HORSES ATTACHED.

NOTHING REMAINS OF THE FIRST MEDIEVAL CAROUSELS...

BUT WE DO KNOW THAT WHEN STAGTOWN WAS ESTABLISHED HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO, A WEALTHY CITIZEN HAD A TYPE OF CAROUSEL BUILT FOR THE LOCAL FAIR AND IT WAS A HUGE HIT.



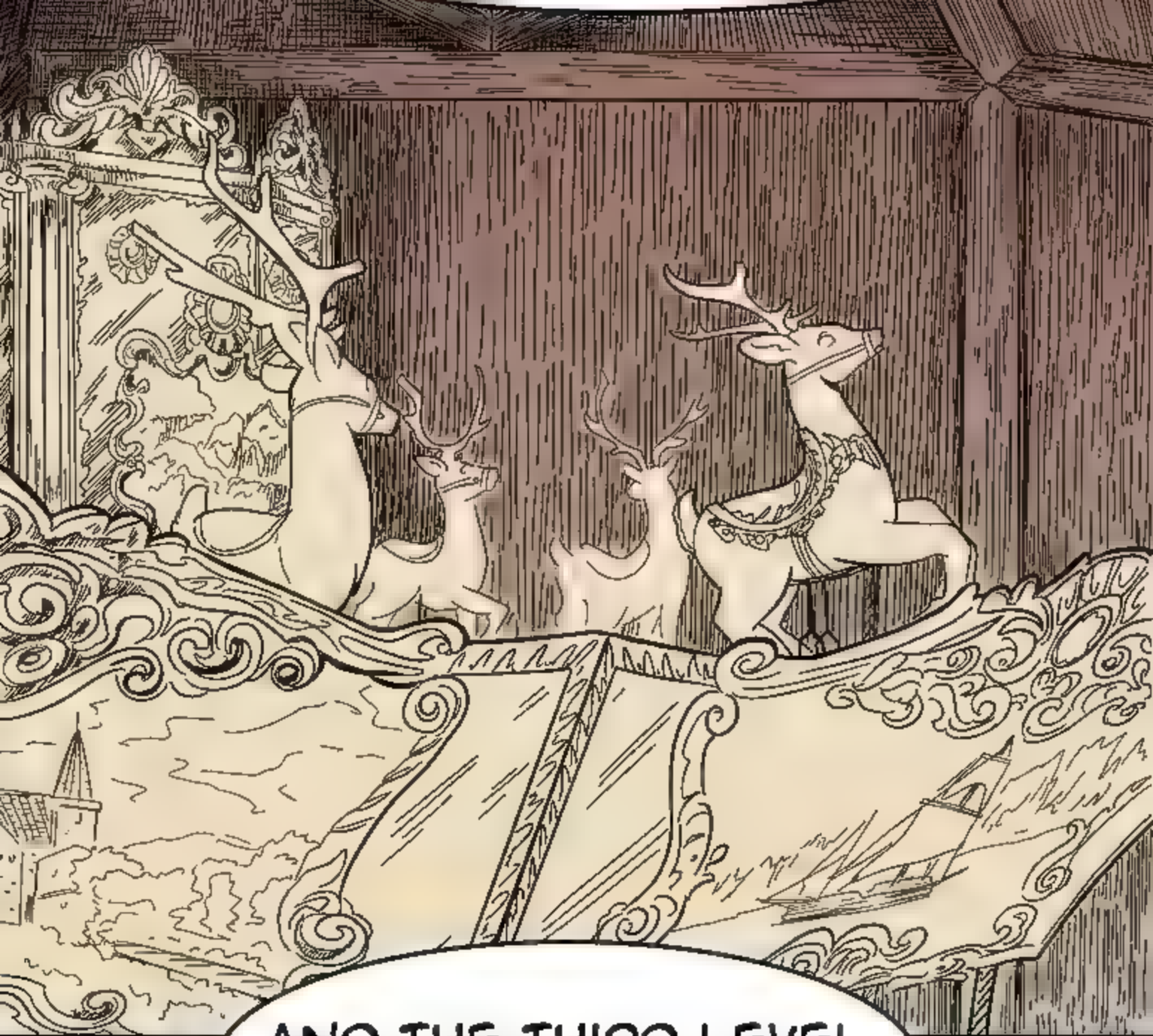
THEN IN THE 1800'S, WHEN CAROUSELS BECAME BIG BUSINESS, THE TOWN CAPITALIZED ON ITS

NOVEL HISTORY.

A LOT OF CRAFTSMEN HERE WERE EMPLOYED CARVING ANIMALS AND DECORATIONS FOR THE TRAVELING CAROUSEL EXHIBITS.

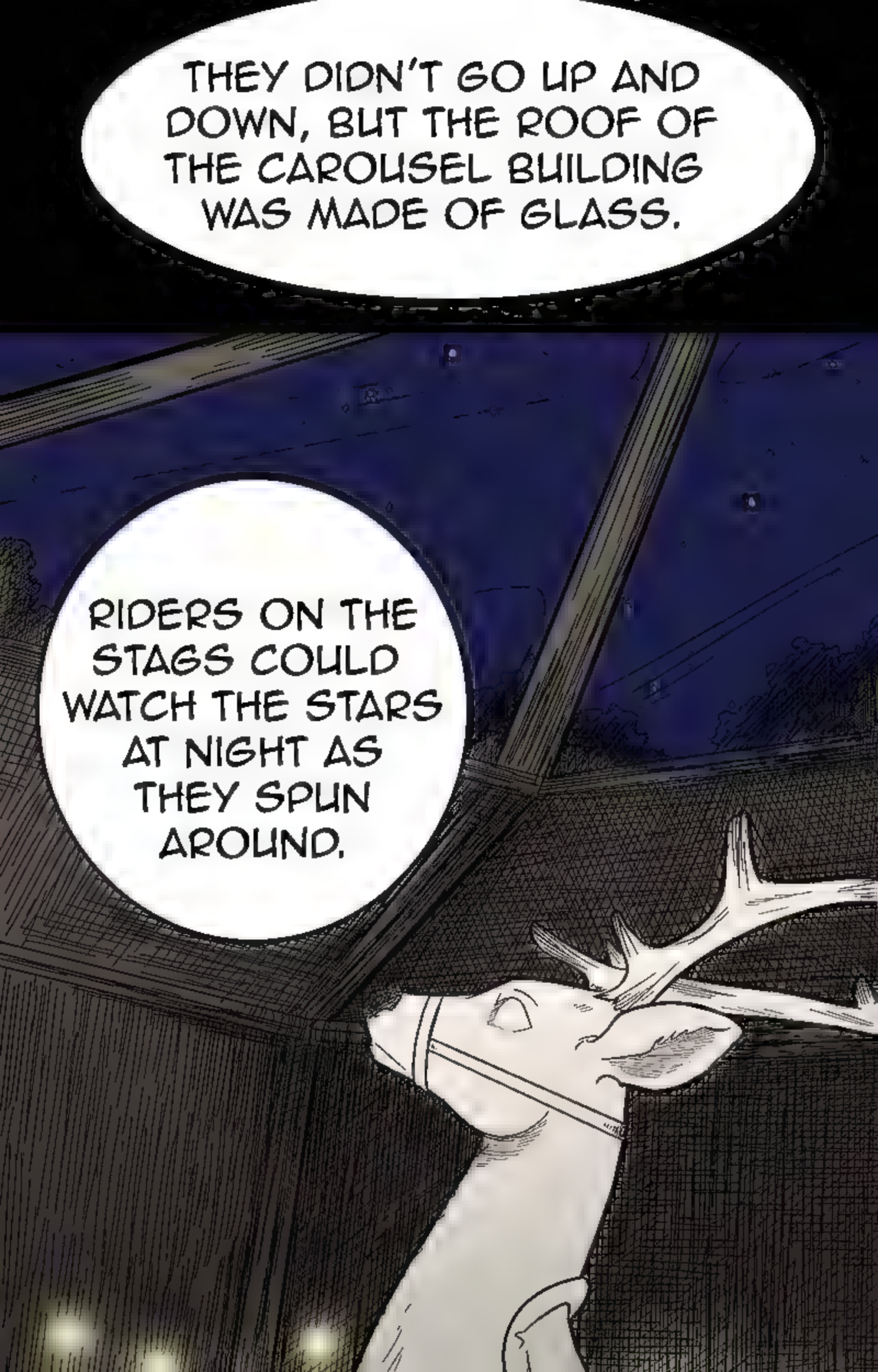
FROM WHAT WE KNOW, STAGTOWN'S CAROUSEL HAD THREE TIERS: HORSES IN TEAMS OF TWO ON THE BOTTOM, PLUS A CARRIAGE...

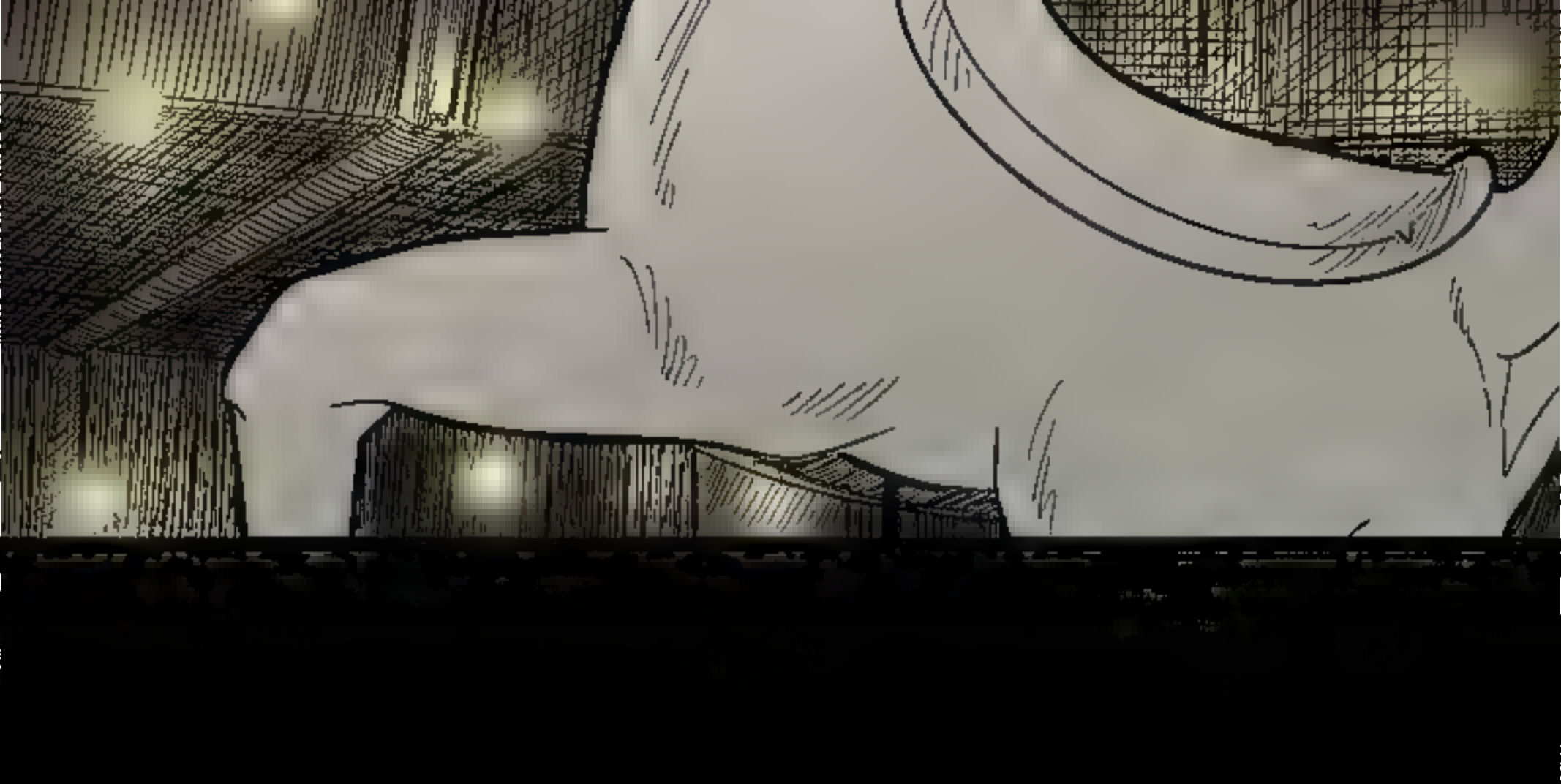
SINGLE RIDERS ON THE SECOND LEVEL...



AND THE THIRD LEVEL WAS ON THE ROOF.

IN HONOR OF THE TOWN, TWELVE BEAUTIFUL STAGS WERE CARVED AND FACED OUTWARDS ON THE ROOF, WE THINK TO REPRESENT THE HOURS OF THE DAY.


THEY DIDN'T GO UP AND DOWN, BUT THE ROOF OF THE CAROUSEL BUILDING WAS MADE OF GLASS.
RIDERS ON THE STAGS COULD WATCH THE STARS AT NIGHT AS THEY SPUN AROUND.



IF IT WAS SO ELABORATE, WHY'D THEY TEAR IT DOWN?
WE DON'T REALLY HAVE

ANY RECORDS AS TO WHY... BUT THIS WAS BACK IN THE DAY WHEN CHOLERA WAS A VERY BIG PROBLEM IN OUR COUNTRY.

WHOLE TOWNS COULD BE WIPED OUT BY IT IN A MATTER OF WEEKS.

STAGTOWN'S POPULATION MIGHT HAVE HAVE SHRUNK SO RAPIDLY THAT THEY DECIDED TO STRIP DOWN THE CAROUSEL AND SELL IT TO SUPPORT LOCAL WORKERS.

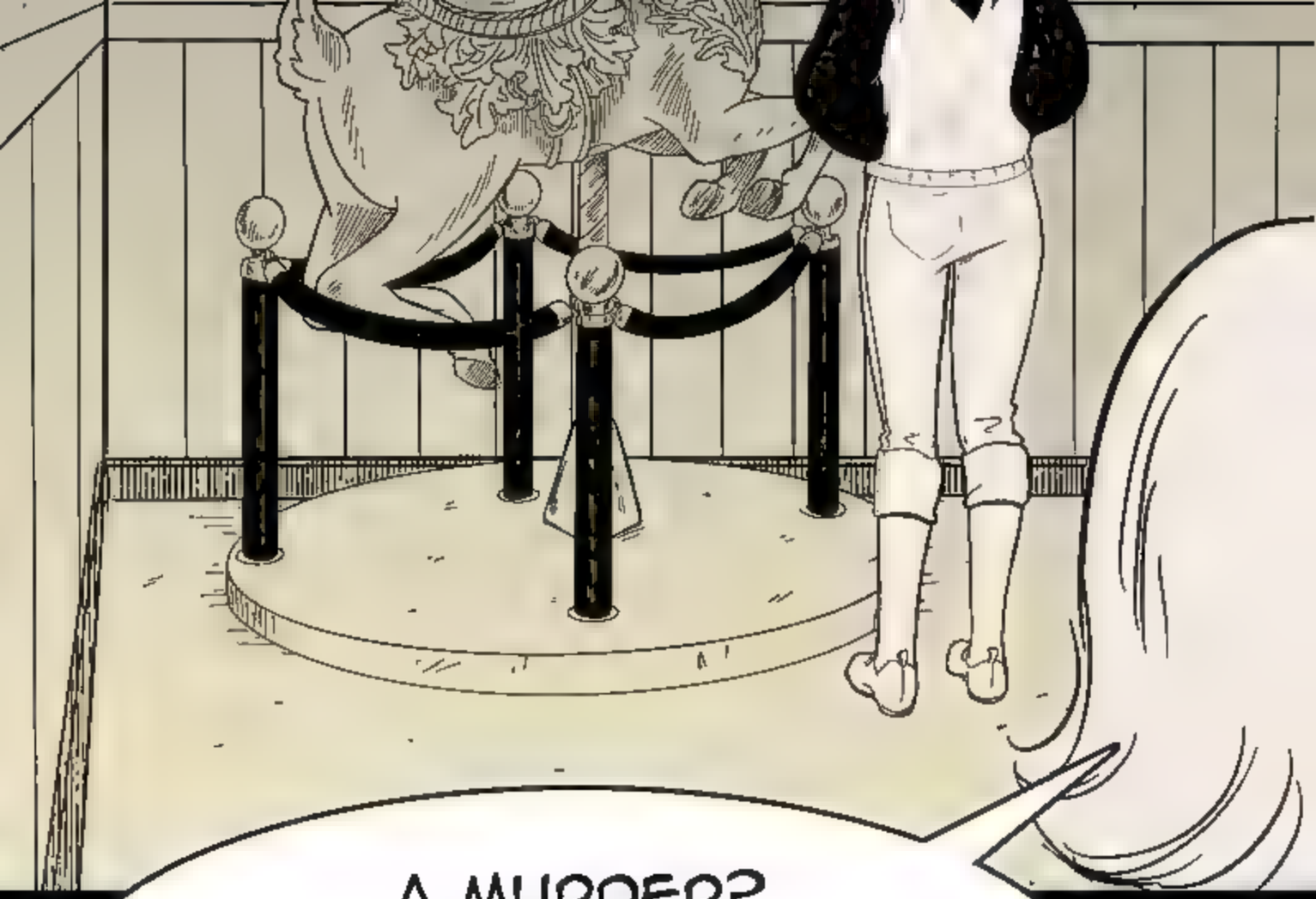
I'M SURE IT HURT THEM QUITE A BIT TO DO SO. THE TOWN WAS VERY PROUD OF IT

WAS VERY PROUD OF IT.

I SEE.

WAS THERE ANYTHING... DID ANY WEIRD STUFF HAPPEN WHILE IT WAS AROUND? AT ALL?

LIKE A MURDER OR SOMETHING?

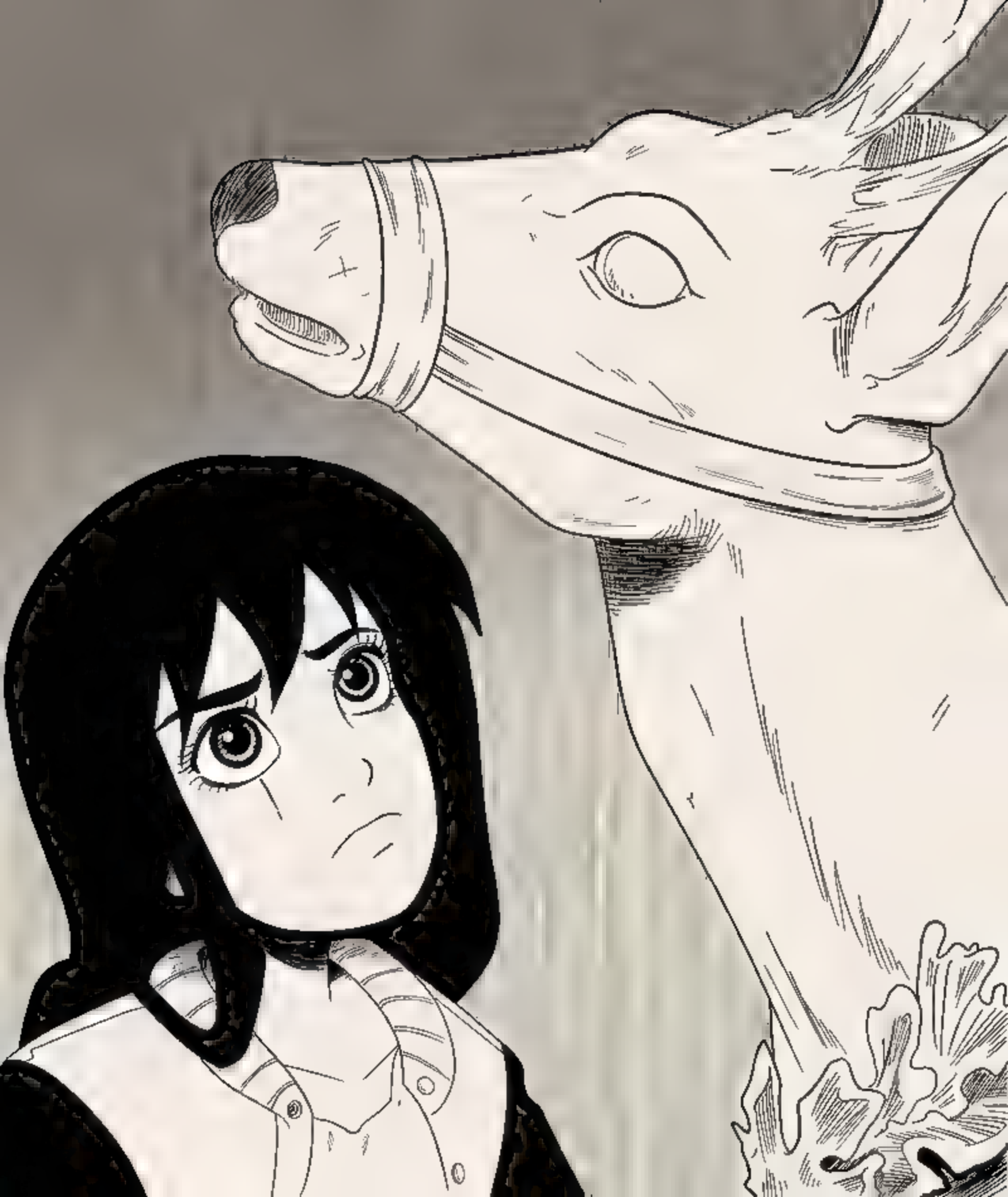


A MURDER? NOT THAT A KNOW ABOUT. IT WAS AN ORDINARY CAROUSEL. WHY?

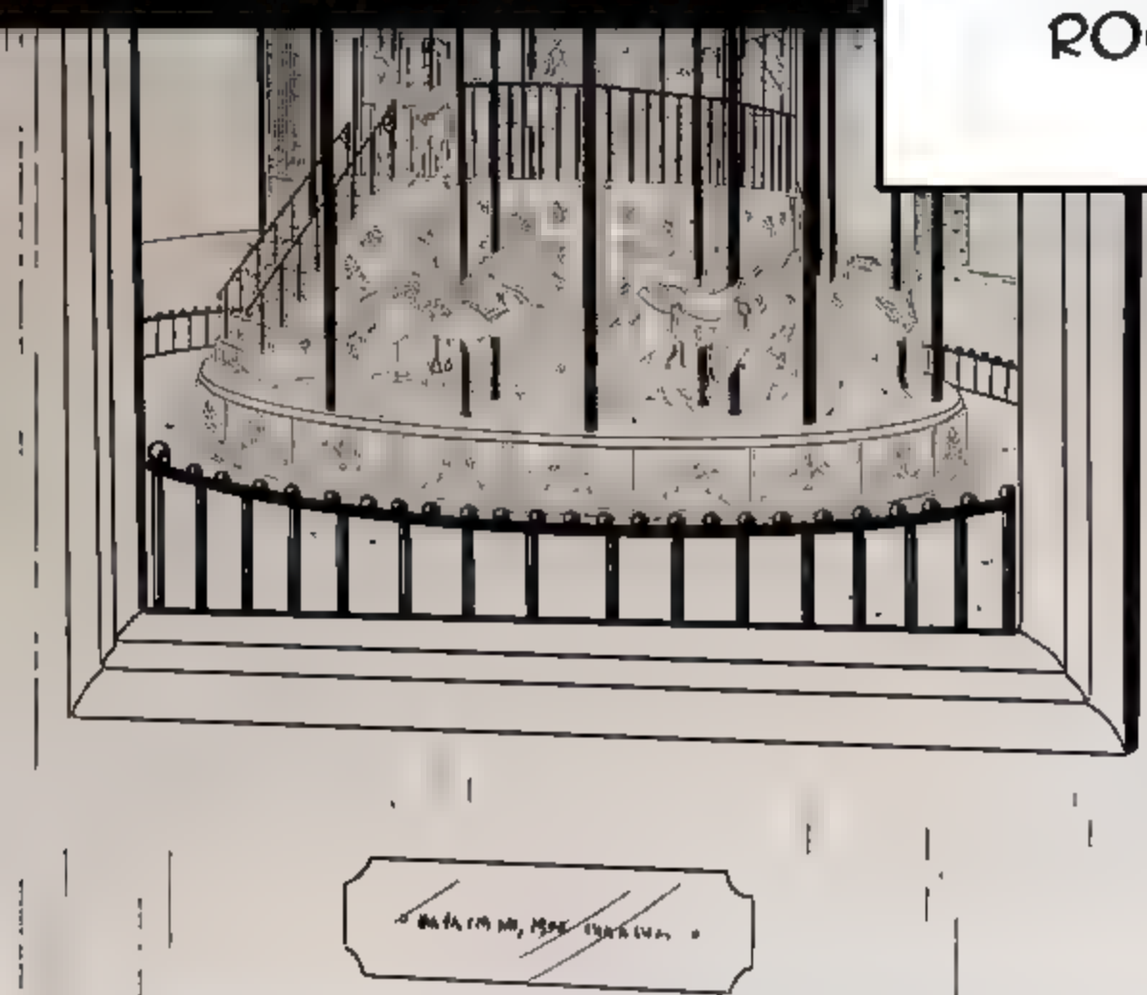
JUST THOUGHT...I READ SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

WELL, I'LL LEAVE YOU

TO LOOK AROUND. CALL ME IF YOU NEED ME!
I WILL. AND I APPRECIATE THE TOUR, THANKS.



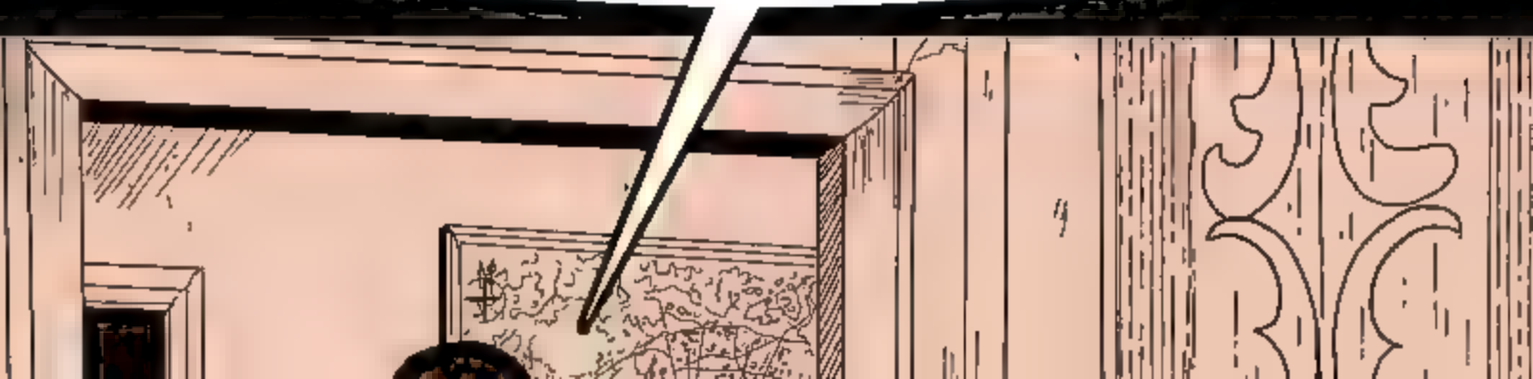
I SPENT SOME TIME TAKING PICTURES OF EVERYTHING IN THE CAROUSEL ROOM.

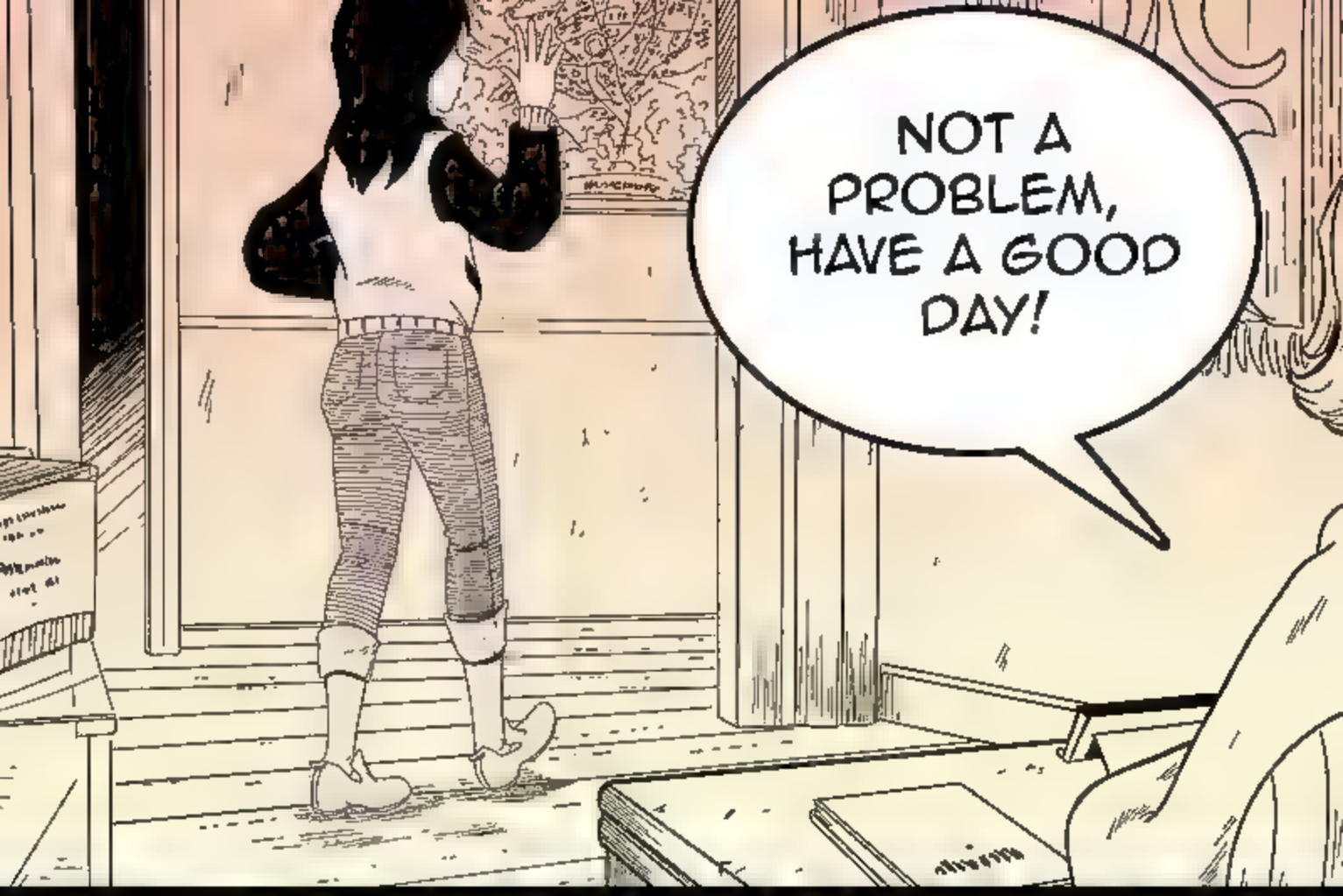


I WASN'T SURE IF ANY OF IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, BUT IT COULDN'T HURT.

MAYBE THERE WAS A CLUE HERE SOMEWHERE...SOMETHING THAT WOULD TIE BACK TO JEREMY.

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP!





OH, QUICK QUESTION.

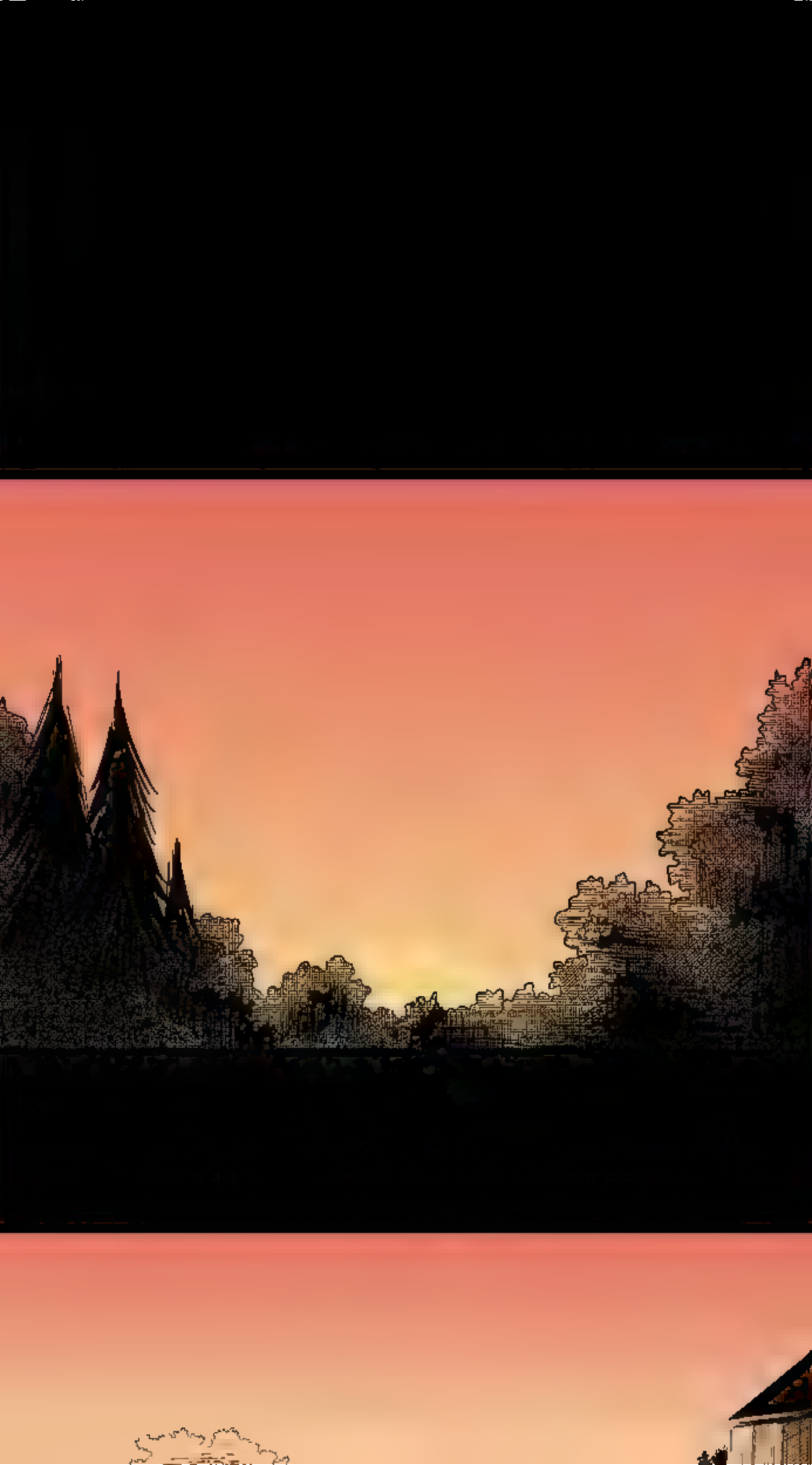
DID, UH...HAS ANYONE ELSE COME BY RECENTLY AND ASKED ABOUT THE OLD CAROUSEL?

RECENTLY?
NO, NOT THAT I

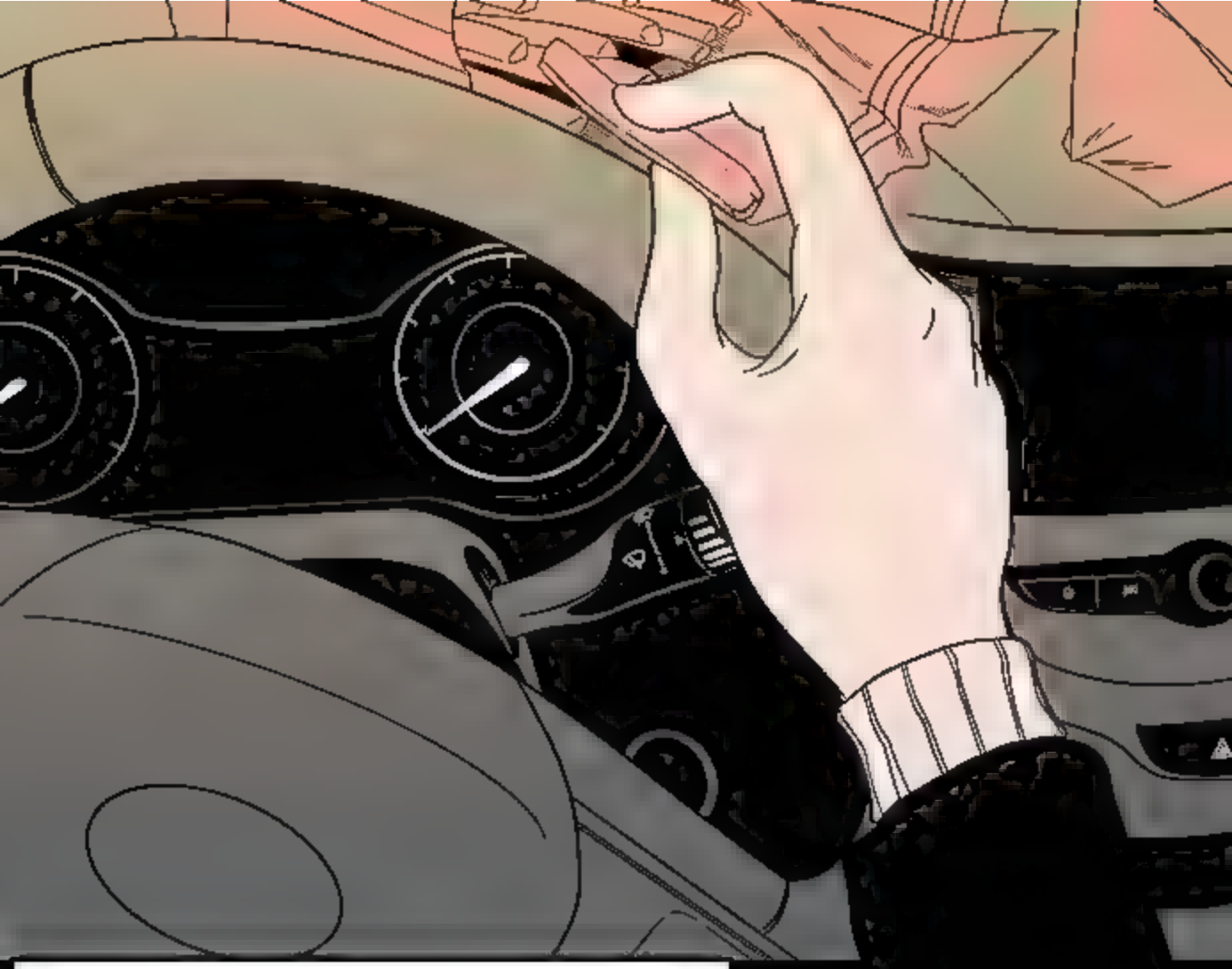
CAN RECALL.

THOUGH A FEW MONTHS AGO, A YOUNG MAN CAME BY TO SEE THE CAROUSEL ROOM.

I REMEMBER HE WAS WORKING ON SOME KIND OF PROJECT...



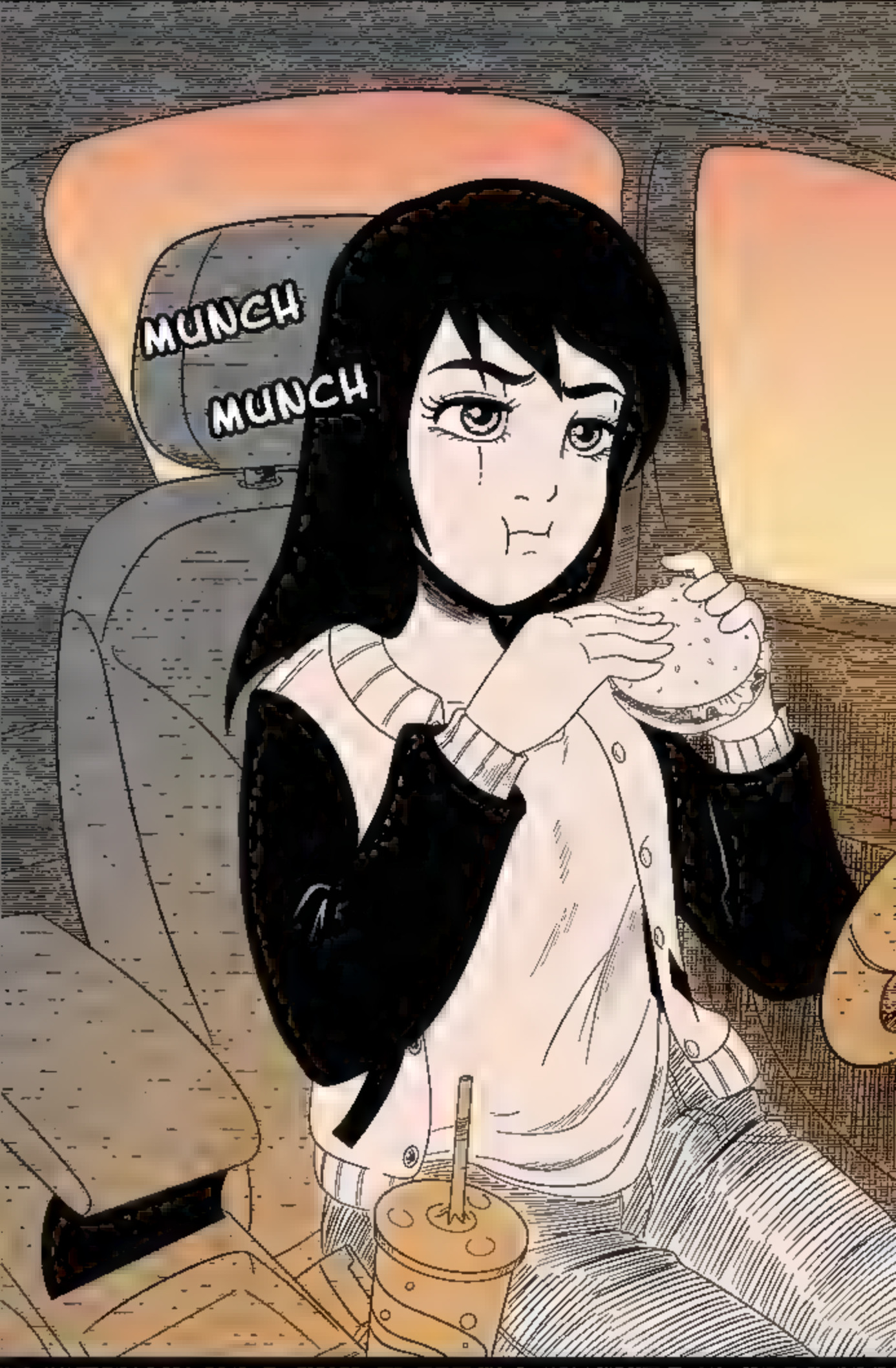
I WASN'T TERRIBLY THRILLED TO REALIZE I WAS FOLLOWING IN JEREMY'S FOOTSTEPS.



ESPECIALLY SINCE HE ENDED UP DEAD.

I KEPT THINKING THAT I SHOULD LEAVE TOWN...

BUT WHERE WOULD I GO? NO ONE WOULD TAKE ME IN AND I WOULDN'T LAST LONG ON MY MEAGER SAVINGS.



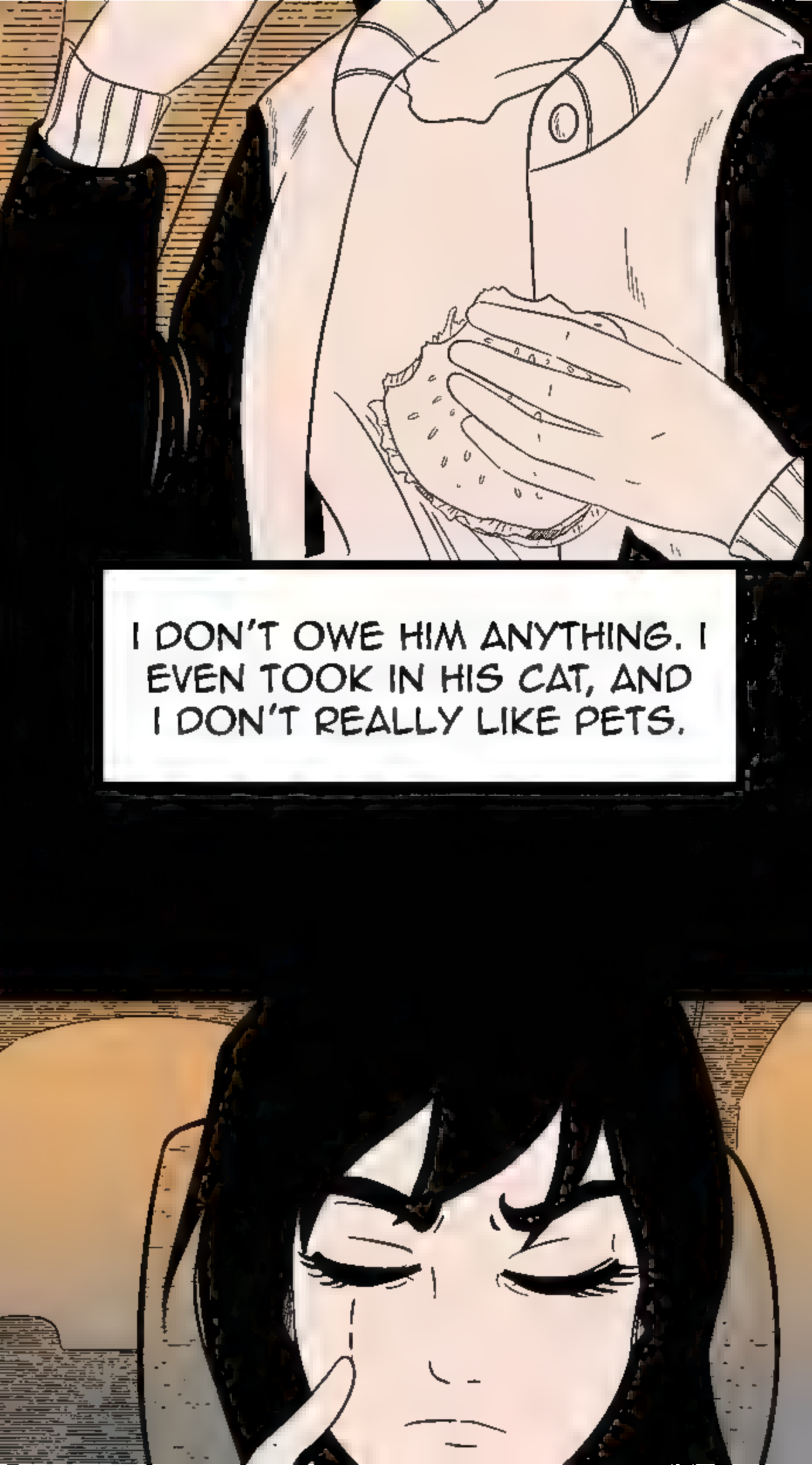
I COULD RACK UP SOME CREDIT CARD DEBT, BUT LANDLORDS WON'T TAKE THOSE FOR A DEPOSIT. IT WOULD BUY ME

A FEW MONTHS IN A MOTEL AT MOST.

MAYBE...

MAYBE I WAS TRYING TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED BECAUSE I FELT GUILTY. IF I HAD *JUST* LEFT JEREMY AT THE HOSPITAL...

NO. THAT WASN'T MY FAULT.

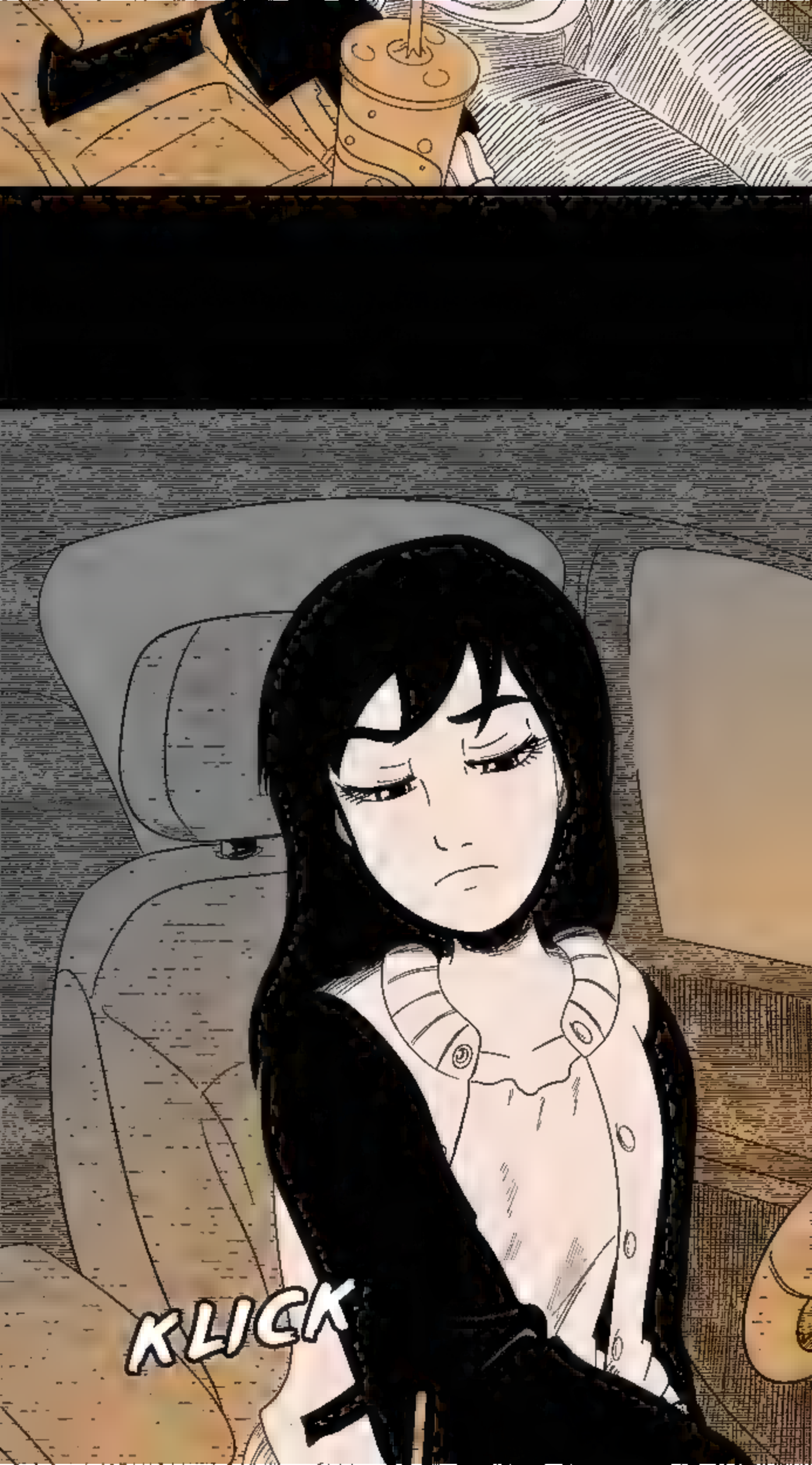

I DON'T OWE HIM ANYTHING. I EVEN TOOK IN HIS CAT, AND I DON'T REALLY LIKE PETS.

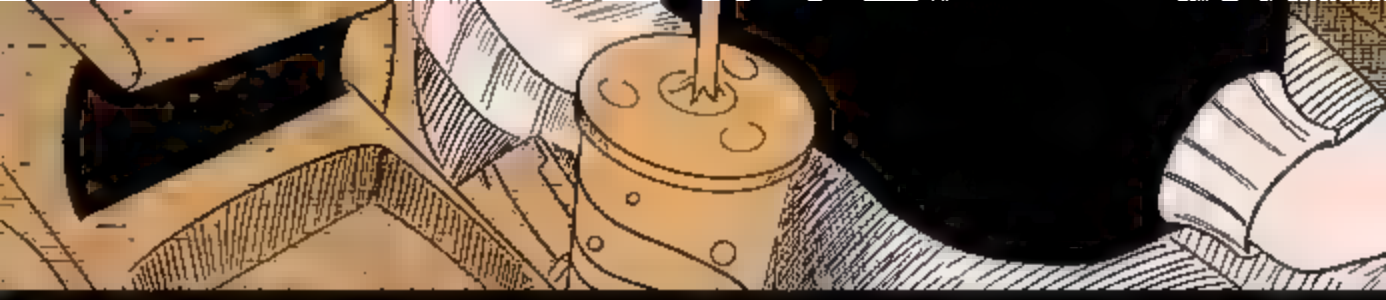
STILL, I'VE GOT A PERSONAL SCORE TO SETTLE. THOSE MARBLE KIDS ARE OUT THERE SOMEWHERE.
WHO'S TO SAY THEY WOULDN'T FIND ME IF I LEFT TOWN?

MIGHT BE SAFER HERE, KNOWING THEY WON'T COME BACK.

NOT AFTER RUNNING AWAY IN THE NIGHT LIKE THEY DID.

SIGH...


KLICK



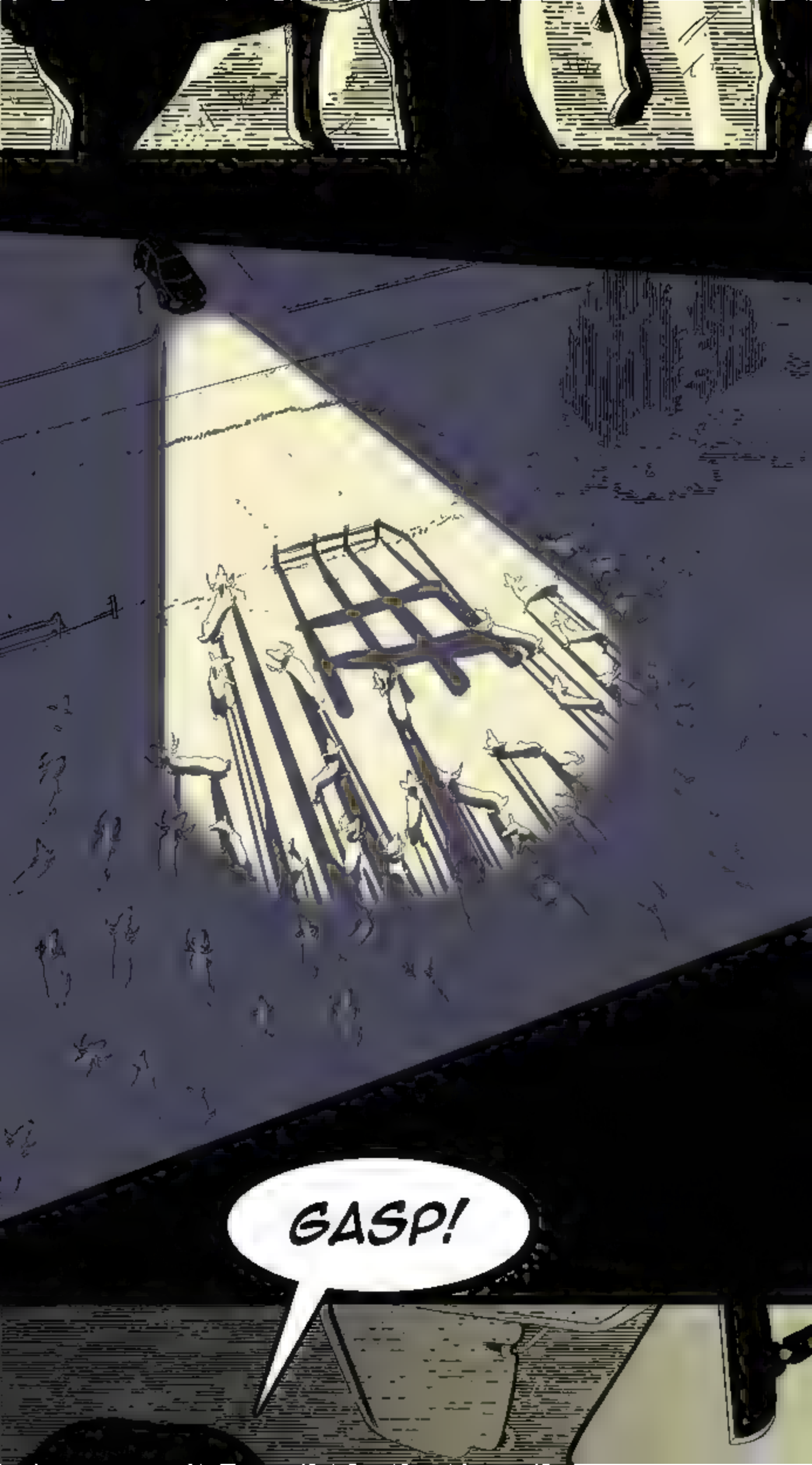
VRRRRRRRMMM...

VVVVMMMM
TOP

WHAT IS...WHAT ARE THOSE?

ARE THERE PEOPLE IN THE CAROUSEL FIELD? AT THIS HOUR?

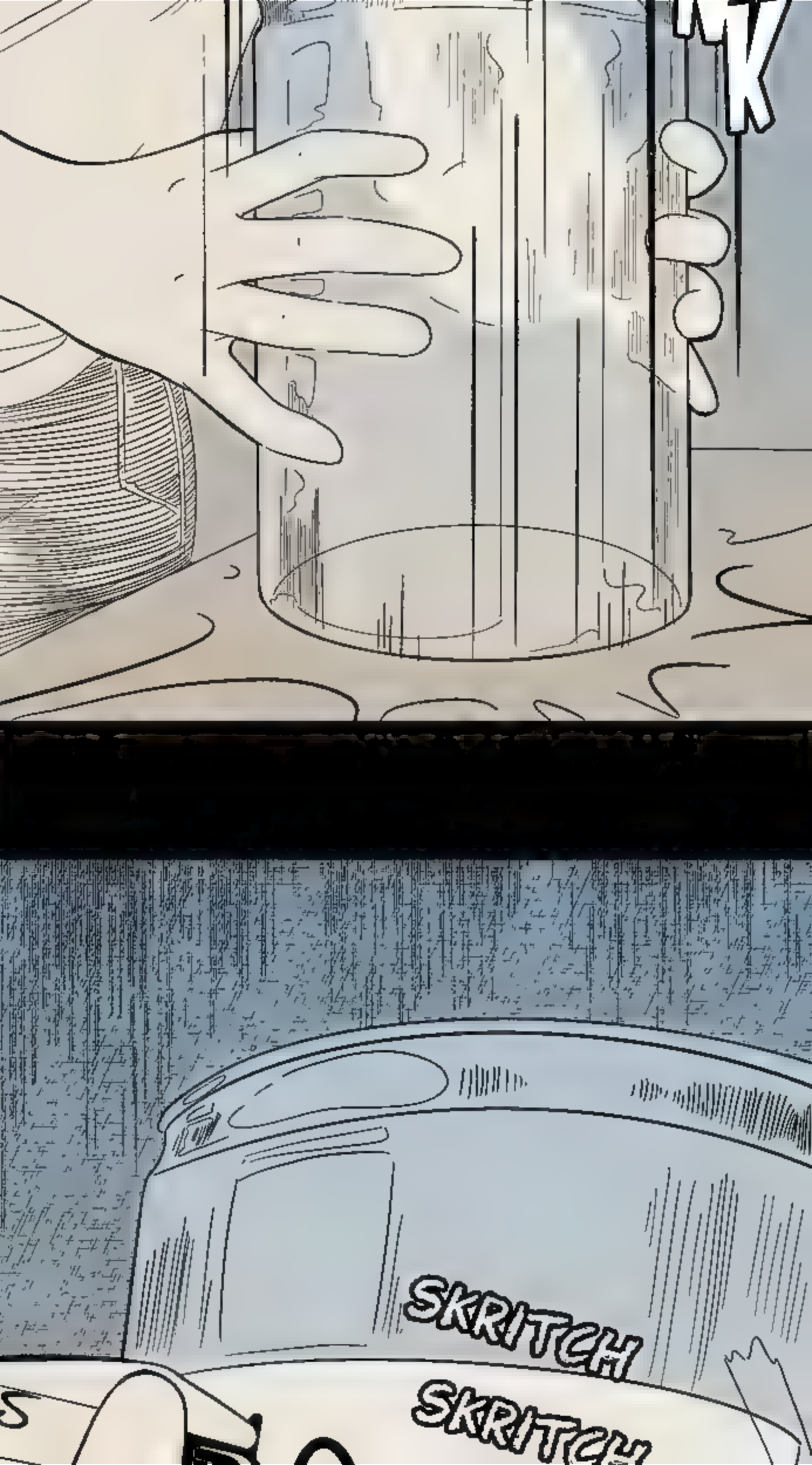
FLICKER


GASP!

SLAM
SCREEEE...

KLATTER

CLUNK
THUD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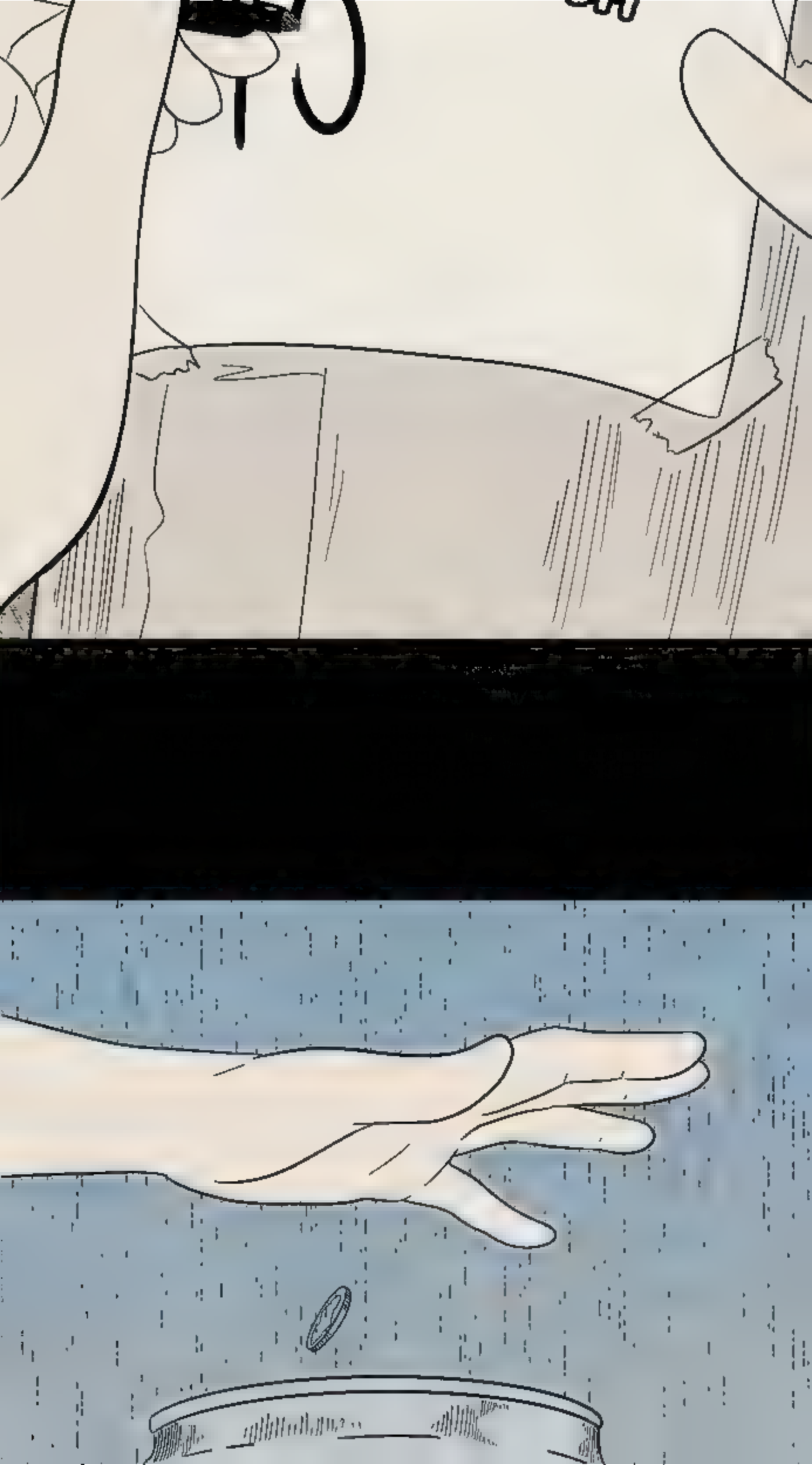

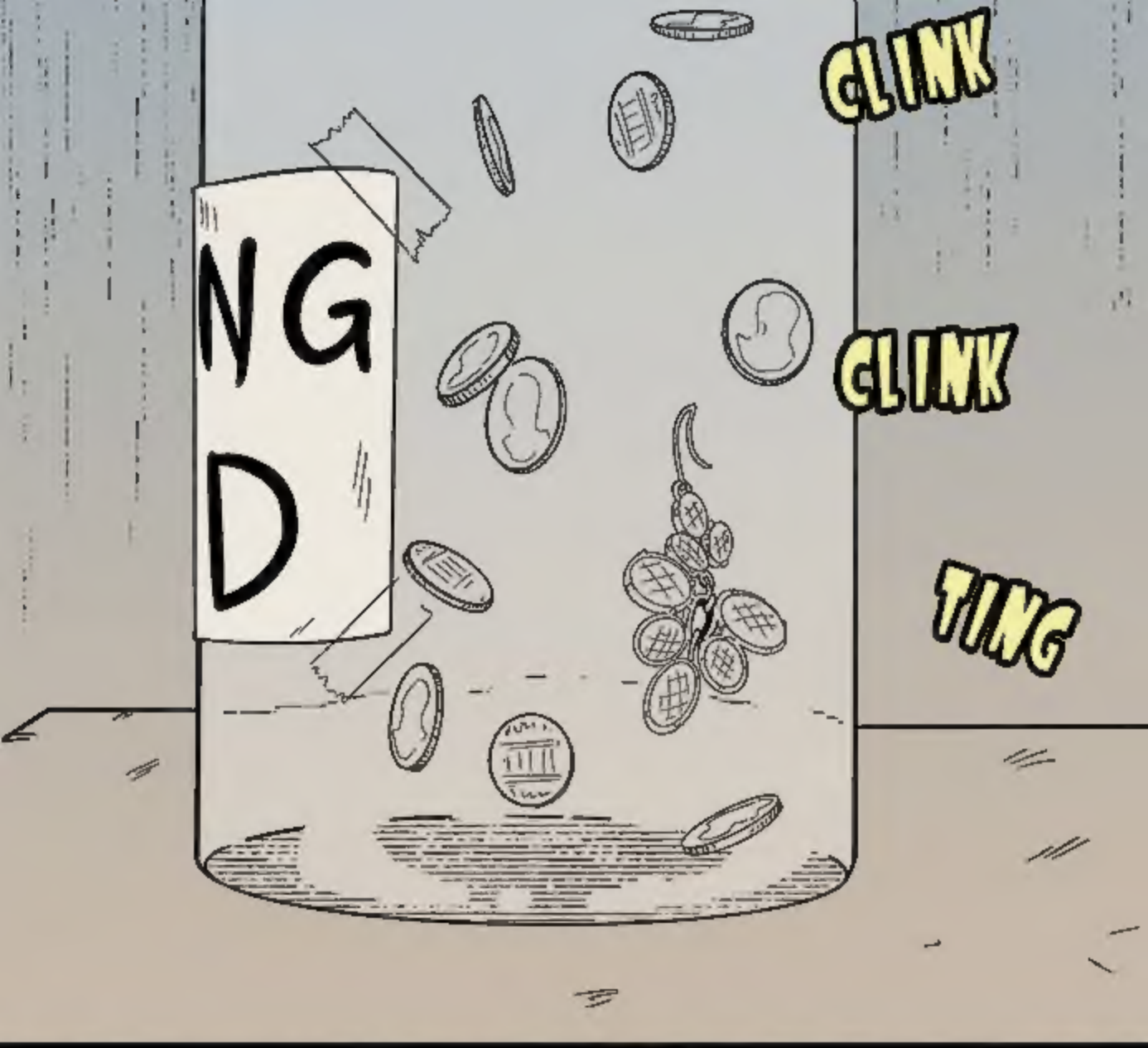
NG
D
CLINK
CLINK
TING

YOU SEE THIS? WHEN THIS JAR IS FULL, I DON'T CARE HOW MUCH WE'VE FOUND ABOUT JEREMY.

WE ARE LEAVING.
MOVING FUND